

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 01219 241205 Z

46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 MC-02 ACDA-19 GAC-01 OMB-01

AID-20 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

RSR-01 /159 W

----- 017456

R 241110 Z APR 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2947

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 1219

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MARR LY EG FR

SUBJECT: LIBYAN MIRAGES IN EGYPT

1. APRIL 24 GUMHURIYYA GIVES FIRST INDICATION TO APPEAR THUS FAR IN ARABIC PRESS THAT A POLITICAL ISSUE HAS ARisen BETWEEN FRANCE, ISRAEL AND LIBYA OVER ARMS SALES. GUMHURIYYA'S ARTICLE IS MASTERPIECE OF OBFUSCATION, DRAWS UPON UPI REPORT OF APRIL 23 LE SOIR ARTICLE TO EFFECT THAT FRENCH/ ISRAELI RELATIONS HAVE REACHED CRISIS POINT BECAUSE OF " CONTINUATION OF FRANCE'S PLANS CONCERNING THE SALE OF ARMS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBYA." AT NO POINT DOES ARTICLE MENTION MIRAGES OR EGYPT.

2. NEITHER AHRAM NOR AKHBAR CONTAIN MENTION OF SUBJECT. CAIRO'S ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY, EGYPTIAN GAZETTE ( CIRCULATION LESS THAN 5000, PUBLISHED BY GUMHURIYYA) RUNS BRIEF FIRST-PAGE ITEM STATING THAT ACCORDING TO FRENCH PRESS, FRENCH ISRAELI RELATIONS HAVE REACHED CRISIS " FOLLOWING FRANCE'S REJECTION OF ISRAELI CHARGES THAT LIBYA HAS SLIPPED ITS FRENCH FIGHTER JETS INTO EGYPT."

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3. GOE MAY FEEL THAT BY KEEPING SUBJECT OF MIRAGES IN EGYPT OUT OF ARABIC PRESS, IT PRESERVES SOME ROOM FOR MANEUVER IN A HIGHLY SENSITIVE POLITICAL SITUATION. BY ADMITTING NOTHING (YET) GOE IS NOT REQUIRED TO DO ANYTHING. AS INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES AND PLAY OF ISSUE MOUNT, HOWEVER, EGYPTIANS MAY DECIDE TO USE PRESENCE OF MIRAGES AS PART OF CURRENT EFFORT TO DEVELOP CREDIBLE THREAT MILITARY POSTURE.

WILEY

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 AUG 2001  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980203; srp 980203  
**Subject:** LIBYAN MIRAGES IN EGYPT  
**TAGS:** MARR, PFOR, EG, FR, LY, n/a  
**To:** NEA  
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO PARIS  
TEL AVIV  
TRIPOLI  
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